

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 8-13 and 102-106 and amend claim 107 as set forth below.

1-7. (Previously Cancelled)

8-13. (Cancelled)

14-101. (Previously Cancelled)

102-106. (Cancelled)

107. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a human Survival of Motor Neuron-Interacting Protein 1, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a protein polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 2 that differs from the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 by a mutation that inhibits binding of Survival Motor Neuron-Interacting Protein 1 with Survival Motor Neuron protein, wherein said mutation is selected from the group comprising consisting of a deletion of the carboxyl terminal 89 amino acids relative to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 and a deletion of the carboxyl terminal 162 amino acids relative to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and further wherein said nucleic acid comprises a nucleic acid encoding a tag polypeptide covalently linked thereto.